



ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (06-03)

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/731,432
				Filing Date	December 10, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Helmut D. Link
				Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	246472003920

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
RS	1.	6,086,595	7-11-2000	Yonemura et al.	
	2.	6,156,040	12-5-2000	Yonemura et al.	
	3.	6,296,647-B1	10-2-2001	Robioneck et al.	
	4.	6,332,887-B1	12-25-2001	Knox	
	5.	2002/026191 - A1	2-28-2002	Dixon et al.	
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	7.	2003/0028197	2-6-2003	Hanson et al.	
	8.	6,540,735	4-1-2003	Ashby et al.	
	9.	6,562,041	5-13-2003	Yonemura et al.	
	10.	2003/0220689-A1	11-27-2003	Ritland et al.	
	11.	6,740,087-B2	5-25-2004	Knox	
	12.	2004/0156168	8-12-2004	LeVasseur et al.	
	13.	2004/0176772-A1	9-9-2004	Zubok et al.	
	14.	2004/0176843-A1	9-9-2004	Zubok et al.	
	15.	2004/186482-A1	9-23-2004	Kolb et al.	
	16.	2004/193272	9-30-2004	Zubok et al.	
	17.	2004/220590	11-4-2004	Zubok et al.	
	18.	2004/0236342	11-25-2004	Ferree et al.	
RS	19.	2005/0015092-A1	1-20-2005	Rathbun et al.	

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		Country Code ² -Number ³ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RS	20.	DE-9217816-U1	6-16-1994		statement of relevancy	
↓	21.	DE-19836498-A1	2-17-2000		statement of relevancy	
	22.	WO-01/62166-A2	8-30-2001			✓
	23.	DE-20111479-U1	11-8-2001		statement of relevancy	
	24.	DE-10134505-A1	1-23-2003		statement of relevancy	
	25.	WO-03/075774-A	9-18-2003		abstract	
RS	26.	DE-202004014768-U1	12-23-2004		statement of relevancy	

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ALTERNATIVE TO PTO/SB/08a/b (05-03)

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				Application Number	10/731,432
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				First Named Inventor	Helmut D. Link
				Art Unit	5731
				Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
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RS	27.	Search protocol dated 3/30/2005 showing the family information of WO 2004080333	
RS	28.	Search Report dated 3/18/2005	
RS	29.	International Search Report dated 3/22/2005	

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RS	1.	6,159,214	12-12-2000	Michelson	

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RS	2.	WO	01/62166-A2	8-30-2001		✓

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RS	3.	International Search Report mailed July 17, 2003, directed to related foreign application		

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
RS	1.	4,289,123	9/1981	Dunn	
	2.	4,672,957	6/1987	Hourahane	
	3.	4,820,305	4/1989	Harms et al.	
	4.	4,892,545	1/1990	Day et al.	
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	22.	2002/0091390	7/11/2002	Michelson	
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	24.	6,440,139	8/27/2002	Michelson	
	25.	6,447,512	9/10/2002	Landry et al.	
	26.	6,447,545	9/10/2002	Bagby	
RS	27.	2002/0138079	9/26/2002	Cohen	

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		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
RS	28.	WO 00/53127-A1	9/14/2000	Sulzer Spine-Tech Inc.		
RS	29.	WO 01/49188-A1	7/12/2001	Spinal Concepts, Inc.		
RS	30.	DE 201 10 393-U1	9/27/2001	Allocon GMBH	translation of abstract only	

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RS	31.	DE 201 10 402-U1	9/27/2001	Allocon GMBH	translation of abstract only	
RS	32.	DE 102 26 496	1/16/2003	Allocon GMBH	translation of abstract only	

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RS	1.	2001/0000532	4/2001	Michelson	
RS	2.	6,517,544	2/2003	Michelson	
RS	3.	2003/0135277	7/2003	Bryan et al.	

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